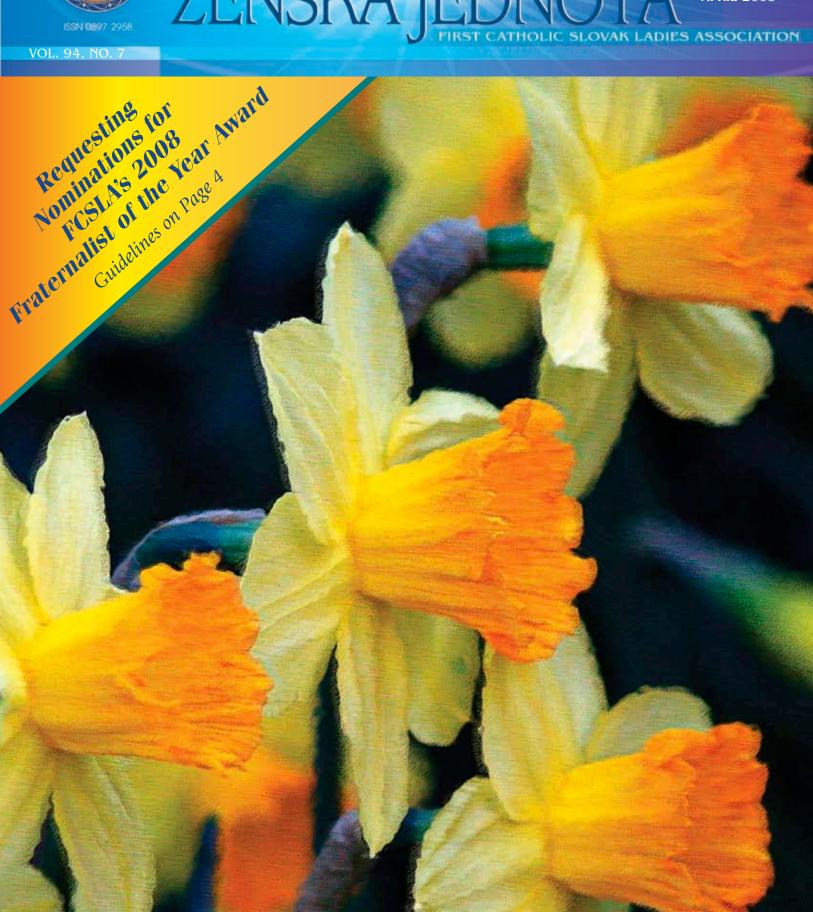


# Fraternally Yours, ZENSKA EDNOTA



### Fraternally Yours, **ŽENSKÁ JEDNOTA**



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Fraternally Yours, ZENSKA JEDNOTA,



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# The Importance of the Written Word .... In The Case of THE FCSLA It Protects You....

So, let me ask you a question ... when was the last time you actually sat down, wrote a letter and carried it to the Post Office and mailed it? If you are like most, the answer to that question would be, "a very long time ago." For many of us mailing anything, even a bill is becoming less and less likely because we find ourselves living in a world where communication through text messaging, e-mail, instant messaging, and cellular phones is becoming standard operating procedure. Personal communications, particularly handwritten notes or personal letters, are becoming quite rare. If



Carolyn Bazik

someone asks us to put something in writing we often question them, put up a bit of resistance and are annoyed that we have to complete yet another task.

In the case of the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association the written word ... your written word is what protects you! Please do not be surprised if one of our staff call or write to you asking you to put your request in writing. When it comes to protecting YOU we are serious about getting it right! For example, in order to assure that it is really YOU making a request to change: a beneficiary, ownership, an address, a dividend option or to make a withdrawal from your annuity you may be asked to fill out a form or to write a letter containing your request and affix your signature before sending it to the Home Office. Your privacy is very important to us and we appreciate your help! By sending us a signed letter and or form in addition to your phone call or email we will know that it is really you, and our trained staff will be happy to comply with your request!

We all know how easy it has become to perpetuate a fraud through the internet, over the telephone or using a fax. We hope that by asking YOU to write and send a real "live" letter with the appropriate signatures we are discouraging these potentially dangerous avenues of deceit.

Remember that YOU are important to us! Please think about that the next time you receive a request to put something in writing! Perhaps you will no longer view this request as a burden, but rather as our way to protect you and your information!

I wish to thank Pam Boyarsky in our Home Office for her assistance with this article.

In closing I want to leave you with this quote . . .

"This is the beginning of a new day. You have been given this day to use as you will. You can waste it or use it for good. What you do today is important because you are exchanging a day of your life for it. When tomorrow comes, this day will be gone forever; in its place is something that you have left behind . . . let it be something good." — Author Unknown

Until next month
Fraternally, Carolyn

#### April 2008 Easter Joy!

#### Reverend Monsignor Peter M. Polando, National Chaplain

My Dear Friends.

From mid January through the first week of March of this year. I have celebrated more than thirty funeral liturgies between the parish in which I am the pastor and the other in which I am the administrator, i.e., Saint Matthias and Holy Name of Jesus in Youngstown. This has been a very unusual amount of deaths that have occurred not only in these two church communities but also during my years of presbyterial ministry. Each person who has died, possessed a unique history, a diverse family background, and a different cause of death. Many of them have been in ground burials while some of them have been cremations. Several of the funerals have been guite sizeable while the majority of them have been small and intimate. Facing death so very often within such a short time span has allowed me to reevaluate the human condition — my own human condition — in relationship to what I believe; even more importantly, in whom I place my belief.

On the day of baptism, whether as infants or on our own accord, with the rest of the Christian community we renounce the devil and the ill effects of sin and place our belief in the Father. Son. and Holv Spirit, the holy Catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. On the day of baptism we die to the sinfulness of this world and rise to a



Peath from this world gives way to the eternal kingdom. Our uniqueness and diversity are united in the person of the Risen One.



newness of life in the resurrected Christ. From that point on, what we do in this journey of life is all directed to the moment of death from this world and an introduction to a life everlasting. In professing Jesus Christ as risen and as the Lord of life, we then attempt to follow his teachings to the best of our abilities and opt for a path that leads to the resurrected life in heaven. Following the risen Lord and his life is the way to eternal life!

Saint Paul in his letter to the Christian community gathered at Rome wrote, "Are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were indeed buried with him through baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live in newness of life. For if we have grown into union with him through a death like his, we shall also be united with him in the resurrection. We know that our old self was crucified with him, so that our sinful body might be done away with, that we might no longer be slavery to sin. For a dead person has been absolved from sin. If, then we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him" (6:3-8).

During our Lenten journey 2008 as in

every Lenten journey, we are called not only to pray for those who are about to enter into the Church during the Easter Vigil, but also are called to reevaluate how faithfully we are living out our baptismal commitments. Through extra prayer, fasting and abstinence, and through acts of generous almsgiving, we recommit ourselves as people not so much of this earthly kingdom, but as a messianic people committed to the life prepared for us by the Death and Resurrection of Jesus. We who were baptized into his death are now raised to a newness of life that is eternal. Death in this light gives meaning and purpose to the Christian. Death gives way to eternal life with our God. Our Easter joy is com-

The Fathers of the Second Vatican Council in the dogmatic constitution on the Church give light of this people who have died to this world and accept Jesus as Messiah. They declare, "This messianic people has Christ as its head: Christ who was given up for our sins and rose again for our justification; bearing now the name that is above every name, he reigns in glory in heaven. His people enjoy the dignity and freedom of the children of God in whose hearts the Holy Spirit dwells as in a temple. They have as their law the new commandment of loving as Christ himself has loved us. They have as their goal the kingdom of God, begun on earth by God himself and destined to grow until it is also brought to perfection by him at the end of time, when Christ, our life, will appear, and creation itself will be freed from slavery to corruption and take on the freedom of the glory of God's children" [no. 9].

Death from this world gives way to the eternal kingdom. Our uniqueness and diversity are united in the person of the Risen One. As Lent was a reminder for us to conform our lives to the suffering Lord, to meditate on his death and our own deaths, may Easter give us hope that as faithful Christians no matter when we die, death to this kingdom will lead us to eternal life with our God. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

#### Happy Easter! Vesele Alleluja!

APRIL 2008 3

#### 2008 Fraternalist of the Year Award!

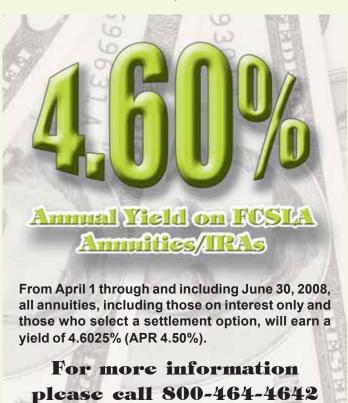
The First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association is once again announcing its Fraternalist of the Year program. The award is given to an outstanding volunteer on the local level, and for community involvement. The FCSLA winner will then be submitted as a nominee for the National Fraternal Congress Fraternalist Award.

All officers and members are eligible to submit a name for this award. The nominee must be a member in good standing of the FCSLA with a history of fraternal and community service. Submit name, branch, and a brief statement describing why you feel your nominee should be considered for Fraternalist of the Year. A Home Office committee will then select one from all nominations received and in turn submit that name to the National Fraternal Congress.

Deadline for entries is May 23, 2008.
All entries should be mailed to:

Sue Ann M. Seich, Fraternal & Youth Director

First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association 24950 Chagrin Boulevard Beachwood, OH 44122



Again this year — only activities of the nominees within the past 12-month period will be considered.

#### **GUIDELINES**

for 2008 Fraternalist of the Year Award National Fraternal Congress of America

#### **PURPOSE**

The Fraternalist of the Year Award is an honor presented by the National Fraternal Congress of America (NFCA) to recognize an individual within the fraternal benefit system who, through example and accomplishment, provided outstanding volunteer service to his or her chapter, society and community during the past year.

#### **ELIGIBILITY**

- The nominee must be a member in good standing of a local chapter of a NFCA member-society and must be living at the time of selection.
- Society Home Office staff and other individuals compensated by the Society as employees are not eligible to receive the award.
- · Nominees of any age are eligible.
- The NFCA national award can be won only once by an individual. However, a society is eligible to nominate an individual nominated previously, but not selected as an NFCA Fraternalist of the Year.

#### **DESCRIPTION OF THE AWARD**

- The 2008 Fraternalist of the Year award will be presented to the honoree at the 122nd NFCA Annual Meeting held in Washington, DC, September 4-6, 2008.
- The honoree will be invited to attend the NFCA Annual Meeting with travel, lodging and meal expenses for the honoree and one guest paid for by the NFCA.
- The NFCA will present a check for \$1,000 in the name of the Fraternalist of the Year to the charitable/nonprofit organization of the honoree's choice.
- One winner and four runners-up will be selected. There will be no ties.

#### **State Officers To Host Picnic**

The Nebraska State officers will once gain host a picnic on Sunday, July 18, 2008 at the North Bend City Park at 12:00 noon. Each family is requested to bring one meat dish as well as one side dish plus your own table service. All hot and cold drinks will be furnished, as well as swimming tickets for all youth members. Please plan to attend — it will be a good chance to see old friends and met some new ones!

### SPECIAL OFFER FOR FCSLA PRODUCERS



**Patrick Braun** 

This year the National Association of Fraternal Insurance Counselors (NAFIC) will hold their annual meeting in Florida at Disney World!! The dates of this meeting will be May 28, 29, and 30th. The theme of the meeting is "Fraternalism and the Family". Featured speakers will include Dr. Kerry Johnson, Jeanne Robertson, Jeff Slutsky, and W. Mitchell. You may get the latest details at <a href="https://www.nafic.org">www.nafic.org</a>. I can personally assure you that this will be the BEST sales

meeting you will attend this year with no exceptions!

FCSLA wants our producers to attend this meeting and so we are making this very special offer. If a producer places \$12,000 of annualized life insurance premium (credit for single premium will be 5% of total) by May 10, 2008, we will pay for the plane ticket, the hotel stay (3 nights) and the cost of the meeting attendance.

As you know, FCSLA strongly endorses the FIC program and the Association reimburses all course and testing fees for our producers that work for and obtain the FIC and FICF designations. Our producers may attend the NAFIC annual meeting whether or not they currently have these designations or are even enrolled. Our purpose in recommending attendance is the exposure to this outstanding program and the sales ideas that come from it. We hope that our producers obtain one of these designations in the future. Please contact me for further details. I hope you take us up on the offer!

Patrick F. Braun, FIC, CLU, LUTCF National Sales Manager

### FCSLA ANNOUNCES TWO NEW EXCITING PRODUCTS

The FCSLA is pleased to announce two new exciting products that came about as the result of feedback from our producers and members!

THE 10 PAY LIFE CERTIFICATE can be issued from ages 0 to 85 and has a minimum face amount of only \$5,000. The certificate includes the Post Mortem Benefit and pays dividends. It is ideal for final expense planning in the senior market. It can also be used to accumulate cash values for education, emergencies and opportunities.

THE 20 YEAR LEVEL TERM certificate can be issued from ages 16 to 80 years of age. The minimum purchase amount is only \$50,000. The certificate is convertible to permanent insurance during the term (up to age 75). The premium rate is guaranteed for the entire term. A special Return of Premium Rider is available on this certificate for an additional premium.

In both cases the new certificates were actuarially computed on the 2001 mortality table which simply means you will find them very competitive.

Brochures with the premium rates and a more detailed description of the products are available through your branch officers, producers or the Home Office!

#### Special Licensing Assistance Offered

The FCSLA is offering special assistance to those FCSLA members who wish to become fully life insurance licensed in their states. The FCSLA Home Office will order and pay for the training materials, pay for any pre-license classes required and also any required continuing education required, providing the member agrees to sell only for FCSLA. Special pre-license tutoring is also offered for those members who might be having difficulty with the material. Most states have restrictions on the amount of life insurance or annuities an unlicensed producer may sell and some states require the producer to be a licensed intermediary agent to sell any life insurance at all. The advantage of holding the life insurance license is that there are no restrictions on the type or amounts of life insurance or annuities the producer may sell. If you, or someone you know, wishes to become life insurance licensed, please contact Patrick Braun, National Sales Manager at 800-464-4642 ext 1018.

### ATTENDS NATIONAL CONVENTION

Members of Branch 452, Whiting, IN in attendance at the 39th National Convention, St. Louis, MO in October 2007.



L-R, first row: Mary Blake, President; Elizabeth Dedinsky, Secretary/Treasurer, Betty Ortiz, Delegate. Second row: Joann Ortiz, Delegate; Betty Skvarek, Auditor; and Margaret Vrlik, Auditor.

### From the Desk of Your Fraternal and Youth Director

During the next few months, our children and young adults will have a strenuous time keeping up with school work, extra-curricular activities, and especially our high school seniors having to make that life changing decision of what university or college to attend in the fall. In today's world they have many more challenges than we did years ago. How can we help them? Listen, take the time to actually listen to their dilemma and put



Sue Ann M. Seich

yourself in their shoes. Remember, you were once there and it was just as tough for you.



The tiny little hand you once held when that loved one was born has now grown but they still need you to put their hand in yours and offer support, encouragement, understanding, and most of all love.

This enormous responsibility is not just for parents, it is also for grandparents, family members, care-givers, teachers, and all those who come in contact with our children on a daily basis.

"WE" can be supportive or pass the buck and let some-

one else use that quality time. Our children grow up so fast, right before our eyes. Don't waste a minute.

Reward them for their efforts, always remembering that praise is a lot better than criticism. It actually takes less energy. Set aside time to offer them assistance and guidance. We all have to protect our future leaders and hope and pray they continue this journey our parents and grand-parents started many years ago.

"YOU" can make a difference in a young person's life and it is not too late to start right now.

Keep smiling, it makes everyone wonder what you've been up to. God's loving care will be with you. Keep happy, healthy, and loved.

Sue Ann M. Seich

### **Vincentian Sister of Charity Observes 60th Anniversary**

On Saturday, February 2, 2008, Sister Colette Baran, a Vincentian Sister of Charity of Pittsburgh, PA, observed the 60th Anniversary of her Religious Profession by renewing her vows at a Liturgy of Thanksgiving in the Motherhouse Chapel.

Rev. Reginald Russo, OFM Cap., Chaplain for the Sisters officiated at the Liturgy.

Sister Colette is a member of Branch 542.

#### Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Chuba Celebrate 60th Wedding Anniversary





Andrew and Dorothy Chuba of Wilkes-Barre, PA, celebrated the 60th anniversary of their marriage on February 7, 2008. The couple married on Mrs. Chuba's birthday, February 7, 1948 in Holy Trinity Church, Swoyersville, PA. They are members of Branch 172.

Mr. Chuba served three years in the U.S. Navy in World War II, and is retired from the U.S. Postal Service.

Mrs. Chuba, the former Dorothy Friedman of Swoyersville is a homemaker.

The couple have four children: Mary Ann Krapsho, and husband, Tom, Harrisburg, PA; Thomas Chuba and wife Laura, Dauphin, PA; Andrea Kealey and husband Jay, Harrisburg, PA; and Michele Banaszek and husband Alex, Wilkes-Barre, PA. There are seven grandchildren: Laura Krapsho, Alexandria, VA, Kelly Krapsho, Leesburg, VA, Michael and Cheryl Chuba, Elizabeth Kealey, and Zachary and Jason Banaszek. Family dinners were held to celebrate both occasions, the 60th wedding anniversary and the 83rd birthday of Mrs. Chuba. Congratulations to our anniversary couple and many happy returns to our birthday lady.

#### Celebrates 80th Birthday

Rose Marie (Senda) Gayso, a member of Branch 233, celebrated her 80th birthday on March 21, 2008.

Rose is a native of Pittsburgh, PA. She married Louis Gayso in 1950 in a ceremony that took place in St. Matthew's Church in South Side, Pittsburgh. Rose was a member of St. Basil Parish from 1956-2003.

Louis was a Prudential agent for 35 years. He was also in the first class of Permanent Deacons and was



ordained by Bishop Vincent Leonard in June 1974. Louis died in 1996.

They have four children: Louise Andrews, Kathleen Benedik, Michael Gayso and Richard Gayso (deceased). They also have eight grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Rose now lives in the North Hills and belongs to St. Teresa of Avila Parish.

#### 2007 American Slovak Cultural Association Vilija Dinner

By Kay Franko and Loretta Ekoniak

The 2007 American Slovak Cultural Association of the Mahoning Valley's Christmas Vilija dinner and celebration, held at the Father Snock Center of St. Matthias Parish, Youngstown, OH, was really special. The Most Reverend George V. Murry, S.J., Bishop of our Youngstown Diocese accepted ASCA's invitation to join us for our Christmas Eve traditional meal. We are gratified that he graced us with his presence and that we could introduce him to a simple but

meaningful traditional Slovak cuisine of oplatky, symbolic of the unleavened bread of the Passover, fish, as part of the pre-Christmas fasting, honey for sweetness, and a sour mushroom soup for the bitterness of life before Christ's coming. We thanked the Bishop for coming, recognizing how very busy he is. One



L-R: ASCA President, Mary Babnic and the The Most Reverend George V. Murry, S.J., Bishop of our Youngstown Diocese at the Vilija.

only needs to see his schedule of activities in the Catholic Exponent to see this!

Part of the Vilija celebration also includes the presen-

#### **CARD PARTY RECENTLY HELD**

A nice crowd gathered at the Clutier Social Center on Sunday afternoon, February 3, for the FCSLA Branch W130 meeting and card party!

There were 4 tables of Pepper and 2 tables of 500. Winning prizes for high score in Pepper were Agnes Podhajsky and Wilfred Yuska. Winning prizes for high score in 500 was Pat Kubik and Frank Kriz. The door prize were won by Pauline Dvorak of Clutier. A lunch was served following cards and enjoyed by all.

All members were invited to attend the annual breakfast which was held on Sunday, March 9.



tation of the ASCA's Person of the Year Award, which this year was more appropriately the *Persons of the Year Award*, as Rudy and Irene Hudak who were chosen to receive the 2007 award at the dinner. This multi-tasking duo was presented a plaque acknowledging their years of persis-



Rudy and Irene Hudak

tent and faithful services of unlimited dimensions. Members since the inception of this organization, they have been involved in all events through the years. Irene has lent a hand in everything that needed to be done, whether it is creating centerpieces for the Vilija tables or corsages, co-chairing the picnic bake sales, collecting tickets, shopping and always being on hand for any needed help. Where you see one, you see the other. One can count on Rudy to be on hand, whether there is a blown fuse to fix, a booth to be set up for the Canfield Fair, cooking to be done for an ASCA picnic, furniture to be set up or pots to be handled — no problem is too great. It is a pleasure to work with this wonderful couple. They are a true asset to this organization. Thanks and God Bless!

Another very important and rewarding part of the annual Vilija Dinner is the presentation of the two scholarships that are awarded to local students who are attending or will be attending college. The awardees are always invited to the Vilija and the awards are presented after the dinner. This year we presented these scholarships to Ashley Janis and Brian Setz.

After the presentations, we enjoyed the performance by the Pittsburgh Slovakians and Junior Slovakians, including the singing of Slovak carols, and the traditional Jasličkary play. We ended the evening with Chinese and Silent auctions. We are already looking forward to planning next year's Vilija!

#### Branch W008 Chicken Dinner to be Held

The officers of FCSLA Branch W008 of Dodge, NE will be hosting a Chicken Dinner on Sunday, August 3, 2008 at 12:00 noon at the Bank-Quit located on Main Street in Dodge. All members and their spouses as well as children who are members are invited to attend. Please make reservations by calling either: Marcella Chudomilka (402) 693-2632 or Alice Maresh (402) 693-2600 by July 21, 2008.

### Branch and District Christmas Activities

#### Holiday Events from Branch W137

In December, Branch W137 held a Christmas party with treat bags and dinner at Time Check Center. Santa, Mrs. Claus and Ricky the Balloon Man joined us for the enjoyable time together.

Carolyn Morrissey was the angel for St. Nicholas Day at the Na-

tional Czech and Slovak Museum along with St. Nick and the devil.

The next branch event will be a swim party and dinner at Bender Pool on April 13, 2008.







Members going through potluck dinner line.



Santa with our President Dan Silhacek.



Our Christmas tree of bingo prizes. When you win you pick a prize off the tree.

#### Branch W033 Annual Christmas Party

Branch W033 held their annual Christmas party on January 6, 2008 instead of in December due to weather issues (cold, ice and snow).

They had a delicious pot luck supper followed by bingo and a visit from Santa Claus. During the regular meeting the children go off to a



Santa with his assistant Rory Kuennen, age 4, helping to hand out Santa's treat bags. In background, Director Rich Kuhn and Vice President Gerry Kuhn.

separate area and spend time making Christmas crafts.



Children at Christmas party enjoying toys from the FCSLA.

#### Branch 225 Christmas Gathering

Branch 225 celebrated Christmas with a gathering at the Orland Chateau, Orland, IL on December 1, 2007.





Janice, Marie and Kal Mager.

#### Branches 348 and 452 Annual Christmas Party

Branches 348 and 452 of Whiting, IN held their annual Christmas party at the Immaculate Conception Church

\* \* \*



Production of the same

Cafeteria on December 2, 2007 at 1:30 p.m. The party began with a prayer and was followed by singing, games, bingo and of course a visit from Santa Claus! This year Santa was played by Ian Schlegel, grandson of Elizabeth Dedinsky. A delicious lunch was prepared and served by the committee. All children in attendance received gift bags from Santa!



Some members enjoying the annual Christmas party.



#### Branch W80 Annual Meeting and Christmas Party

Branch W80 of Clarkson, NE, held its annual meeting and Christmas party on December 2, 2007 at the Brass Rail Party Room. Members were treated to a delicious dinner before discussing plans for the coming year. It was decided to host a senior citizen party on St. Joseph's Day, March 19, 2008, instead of the usual card party. The annual breakfast meeting will be held in April.

Children from the St. John Neumann School provided table favors and door prizes were awarded. We hope to see everyone next year!!



#### Holiday Cheer and Retirements for Branch 376

On Saturday, December 8, Sr. Branch 376 of Milwaukee, WI held their annual meeting, elections, and Christ-

mas party in the Williamsburg Room at Klemmer's Banquet Center, where they enjoyed a delicious luncheon.

Two retiring officers were honored: Mary Kebisek, Secretary/ Treasurer, and Mary Wacho, Auditor. President Kathy Dorfner gave a speech about the con-



Santa with Emily Kosso, Branch 376 member.

tributions these amazing ladies have made to the Branch, but unfortunately, Mary Wacho was not feeling well and could not attend the meeting. Mary Kebisek received a standing ovation and gave a moving speech thanking members for their support throughout the years. Mary will continue to be President of the Louise M. Yash District.

Members then welcomed new officers Richard Bozek, Secretary/Tresurer; and Kathy Valent, Auditor. Centerpieces were then raffled off and everyone received a Usinger's sausage as the Board wished them a wonderful holiday season!

The 2008 Board of Directors includes: Kathy Dorfner, President; Mary Jo Noyes, Vice President; Richard Bozek, Secretary/Treasurer; Daniel Loduha, Recording Secretary; Laura Skubal, Jr. Branch Secretary; and Sue Daniels and Kathy Valent, Auditors.



Santa with the new Board and outgoing Secretary/Treasurer, Mary Kebisek.

Any articles, pictures and suggestions for the magazine should be sent to:

P.O. Box 1617 Reading, PA 19603

e-mail: zjbazik@comcast.net

Phone 610-373-2743 • Fax 610-375-8333

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APRIL 2008

## Our Constitution and Bylaws as Amended by the 39th National Convention

One of the orders of business at the 39th National Convention was the review of proposed changes to FCSLA's Constitution and Bylaws. After a thorough discussion of the issues, the Convention approved four minor revisions to the Constitution and Bylaws.

#### 1. The Villa Sancta Anna

The first amendment was the deletion of Article IV, entitled "Assistance For the Aged and Needy". This section previously provided for FCSLA's support of the Villa Sancta Anna Home for the Aged. Because The Villa Sancta Anna is no longer operational, the Article was deleted in its entirety.

#### 2. The Audit Committee

The second amendment was a minor addition to Article XIII, Section 8 (which will now be numbered Article XII, Section 8 due to the Villa deletion) to address the composition of the Audit Committee. The designation of an Audit Committee was made to comply with an Ohio Department of Insurance recommendation. The new Article XII, Section 8 (5) now reads: "The three National Auditors shall compose the Audit Committee."

#### 3. National Officers' Report

The third amendment is to Article X, Section 2 (3)(f) (which will now be numbered Article IX due to the Villa deletion) regarding the National Convention agenda. The new section limits the required reports to the National Secretary and National Treasurer.

#### 4. Regular Branch Meetings

The final amendment revised Article VI of the Rules and Regulations of the Senior and Junior Order Branches, entitled Branch Meetings. The amendment requires that branches hold meetings on a monthly basis; whereas the prior Article VI only required annual meetings. The revision was made to comply with Ohio Revised Code Section 3921.03 which requires all lodges to hold regular meetings at least once a month in furtherance of the purposes of the Association.

In addition to the above substantive amendments, there will be numerical revisions due to the Villa deletion and other non substantive amendments such as Index page amendments and date amendments reflecting the 39th National Convention dates. Copies of the new Constitution and Bylaws will be sent to each Branch President and are also available in electronic form upon request. If you would like an electronic copy of the amended Constitution and Bylaws, please e-mail such request to <a href="Mailto:Karen@fcsla.org">Karen@fcsla.org</a>.

#### Attends Installation of Bishop Zubik



National Trustee Cynthia Maleski delivering a petition during the Installation Mass of Bishop David Zubik.

National Trustee Cynthia Maleski, Esquire and her husband Dr. Andrzej Groch attended the installation of Bishop David Zubik as Bishop of the Diocese of Pittsburgh on September 28, 2007. Bishop Zubik's parents are Slovak and Polish.

Cynthia was honored by being asked to deliver one of the petitions during the Mass in Slovak and wore parts of the traditional Slovak garb. The veil she is pictured in was

actually the veil her Baba wore for her wedding in a Slovakian village.



L-R: Cynthia Maleski, Bishop David Zubik and Andrzej Groch following his installation as Bishop of Pittsburgh.

#### **Celebrates 65 Years Together**

Andrew Ferens married Helen Suba on March 4, 1943 at St. Rita's Church in Whitaker, PA. They have three daughters, Geraldine Smith of Lower Gwyned, PA; Roberta Ames of Harrisburg, PA and Andrea Cipa of Export, PA.

The anniversary couple has nine



grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Andrew is President of Branch 424 Homestead, PA and Helen is Secretary. Congratulations to the Ferens and thank you for your many years of fraternal service to the FCSLA!

#### ROSARY MAKERS RECEIVE DONATION

A check for \$1,000 was presented to the St. Michael the Archangel Rosary Makers. This was a donation awarded to them by the XXXIX National Conventon held in St. Louis, MO. Branch 172 also presented them with a donation. The Rosary Makers meet weekly at the St. Francis of Assisi Church Hall in Wilkes-Barre, PA to make and distribute "Weapons of Peace" rosary packets for the U.S. military worldwide. The group has been awarded a Certificate of



### St. Mark Catholic School Receives Donation

St. Mark Catholic School in Bristol, PA, received an FCSLA 2007 convention donation of \$10,000 for the installation of a Science Lab for 196 students enrolled in grades K through 8. St. Mark School has been educating Bucks County's youth for over 100 years with a dedicated faculty and staff.

Presenting the donation to the pastor, Father Dennis Mooney, is Francis A. Iskra, parishioner and FCSLA member of Branch 172, along with Sarah Mastrull and Dale Mastrull, St. Mark Eucharistic Ministers and daughter and son-in-law of Francis A. Iskra.



L-R: Sarah Mastrull, Francis Iskra, Rev. Mooney, Karen Pezza, former principal who represented the new principal, Angelina Clair and Dale Mastrull. The Mastrulls are members of Branch 172 in Wilkes-Barre, PA, where their aunts, Magdalen I. Iskra and Martha A. Iskra, are officers.

Appreciation for their outstanding support of the Iron Soldiers of the 2-103rd Armor Pennsylvania National Guard, headquartered at the Watras Armory in Scranton, PA. Pictured below are Martha Iskra, Treasurer of Branch 172; Irene Kalinowski, President of Branch 38; Helen Parduski, organizer of the Rosary Makers and member of Branch 38; Magdalen Iskra, President of the Magdalen I. Iskra District and Branch 172.





KANSAS CITY, KS — Branches 211/176 extend their sincerest thanks for the wonderful donation to the Strawberry Hill Museum. Pictured L-R: Rosemary Gay, Betty Fetterling, Theresa Planac, and Adrienne Nastav, Museum Curator.

#### **KEEPING TRADITIONS ALIVE!**

The Dedinsky kitchen was busy this holiday season as Grandmother Elizabeth (Branch 452) enjoyed baking Christmas cut-out cookies with her grandchildren.



Pictured L-R: Jill Dedinsky and son JJ (visiting from the Virgin Islands) and Nicholas, Andrew, Elizabeth and Hailey.

#### HFAP SURVEY RESULTS "EXEMPLARY"

The Health Facilities Accreditation Program (HFAP) team surveyed Saints Mary and Elizabeth Medical Center on December 5-7. At the closing conference, HFAP team



Seated, L-R: the HFAP team, Frank Mirabito, Beryl Chickerella, R.N., Milton Dakovich, D.O., Kathy Crawford, R.N., Ron Paolini, D.O., and Jim MacCallum. Standing, L-R: John Przypyszny, M.D., Patricia Monnelly, Director, Performance Improvement, Maruti Bhorade, M.D., Hugo Velarde, M.D., Sister Antonia Klausner, C.S.F.N., R.N., Chief Officer Margaret McDermott, Suzanne Lambert, R.N., Vice President, Patient Care Services, Martin Judd, Vice President, Professional Services.



Treasurer of Branch 122 Nadine Beran with children's books placed in pews at St. Mary's Church.

#### DONATES CHILDREN'S BOOKS

During the past year Branch 122 has donated and placed religious children's books in the pews at St. Mary's Church in Schuyler, NE. The branch also bought two bookcases for the Schuyler Museum.



Treasurer Nadine Beran and President Elsie Cerny with book shelves bought for Schuyler Museum.

members commented on their specific survey areas and gave an overwhelmingly positive response to their visits at both campuses. Audience members remarked that it was a joy to hear the words "in full compliance" for almost every survey category. Team leader Milton Dakovich, D.O., concluded the session by complimenting all those involved and saying that "everyone was very cooperative and helpful. . . . Your dedication is exemplary, your staff is motivated, you work together for patient health . . . and you run a good shop."

Sister Antonia Klausner, MSN, RN is President of Chicago Branch 180.

### BRANCH W033 AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS

Branch W033 awarded scholarships to the following students during their Christmas party on January 6:

\$250.00 awards were given to Chelsie Andera from Manly, IA and Chelsea Adams from Spillville, IA in the High School and College category.

\$100.00 awards for K thru 8 going to Catholic School were given to: Matthew Helmkamp (5th Grade), Cedar Rapids, IA; Mitchell Helmkamp (Kindergarten), Cedar Rapids, IA; Caleb Hejna (1st Grade), Floyd, IA; Levi Klimesh (5th Grade), Calmar, IA and Kaylie Klimesh (1st Grade), Calmar, IA.

Congratulations to the winners and to the branch for supporting the education of our future leaders!!



Matthew Helmkamp



Mitchell Helmkamp



Caleb Hejna



Carolyn Bazik wishes to welcome Monsignor Peter Polando to the National Board of Directors and aplologizes for the omission of his name in her Annual Report as Acting Editor, published in the March 2008 Fraternally Yours!

#### Combined Branch Party a Success in Milwaukee!

Fifty members of Sr. Branch 23 and Jr. Branch 130 of Milwaukee, WI braved a frigid February day to party at the very popular Stonefire Pizza Co. in New Berlin, WI. Stonefires is a new family entertainment center that features all kinds of pizza, a tasty buffet, and an enormous game room featuring activities for all ages.

Junior and Senior members were treated to the buffet lunch and received a \$10 game card to enjoy the games and test their skills.

This is the third annual combined Branch 23/130 Valentines party organized by Branch 130 Secretary, Lucille Koller, Branch 23 Secretary, Katie Mueller and Treasurer, Kathy Mueller to help FCSLA families enjoy a fun afternoon together.



Lucille Frey, Steven Manders, Adam Brotherhood and Shirley Winquist enjoy the delicious buffet.



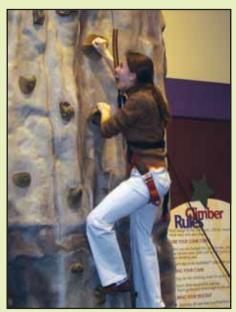
Paul Dilger test his skills at basketball.



Joseph and Vlasta Hlavac.



The Cebar family enjoys the buffet lunch.



Branch 23 Secretary Katie Mueller attempts rock climbing.



Theresa and Dale Quednow take time to smile for *Fraternally Yours*.



Ava and Tom Duelge.



The Cebar family enjoy a game of skill.

#### NOTICE

Starting with the March 2008 issue — *Fraternally Yours* is now also available on the website as a pdf file.

### Please log onto www.fcsla.com

and click on Fraternally Yours Magazine found under Fraternal Tab in the column on the left side of the home page.





### Think Spring And Find The Words

T U S V G N I K L A W T E H O S J
C G N I R P S D Q O D J B F D S S
B L Q A K E P O R P M U J S B T O
N U L K B R J Y E P I M T K G N F
E X G Y M W A E J Y Z R N F M A T
N B K S I E G J H H A S F X L L B
I L E A N O J S N C B D T L C P A
H T W I I D S C K T A C A D O X L
S M A K A A O D Z O B B R R W G L
N S E Y R S J H F C E B E F L F G
U L W G A G J S W S G C R G R H S
S I M S O X R I A P C Q K I Y B R
F E T C Q E N B J O O M S W Q K D
N E A Q W Z H R S H N B D L A D P
T L X O D S C T F U E D R V T C A
Y O L M G I K V H E V W I E O S P
N F I O U E J I L K U C B M X Q I
Z X G V Y L F R E T T U B R U R Z



REBECCA JANE GVOZDEN received her First Holy Communion on April 21, 2007 at St. Rochus Church in Johnstown, PA. She is the daughter of Karen and Philip Gvozden. Rebecca is in the third grade and enjoys dance class and playing the violin. She and her sister, Kara Ann are members of Junior Branch 425.

BASEBALL
BIRDS
BUGS
BUTTERFLY
FLOWERS
FRISBEE
GOLF
GRASS
HOPSCOTCH

JUMPROPE
PLANTS
RAIN
SOCCER
SOFTBALL
SPRING
SUNSHINE
TRACK
WALKING



Answers on page 19

Have You Signed Up a New Member This Month?

### JR. BRANCH 211 HOLDS ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY

Jr. Branch 211 of Wilkes-Barre, PA held their annual Christmas Party on December 1, 2007 at the Plains Ambulance Banquet Facility. They joined Jr. Branches 73, 186, and 362 of the Magdalen I. Iskra District for a grand celebration. A "Fun Food Menu" of pizza, hamburgers, hot dogs, cotton candy, popcorn, chips, pretzels, assorted drinks and make your own sundaes was enjoyed by all.



Lauren Kalinowski and Santa.

Each branch donated prizes for a raffle. The name of one lucky child from each branch was drawn for a \$25.00 gift certificate. Also, numerous other children received "runner-up" prizes from this drawing. The children sang Happy Birthday to Jesus, and then welcomed Santa with a joyous song. To the delight of the children, Santa visited them as they sat at their tables with their parents. Each child was called individually to receive their "goodie bag" from Santa. The bag contained gifts from their branch and the FCSLA Home Office. A good time was had by all.



Elizabeth Barna and her family.



**KENNY DORF-**NER (far left) and STEPHEN and **JOEY ROSSI** are the newest members of Jr. Branch 334 in Milwaukee. WI. They are third generation memof bers the FCSLA! Their proud Grandma is Kathy Dorfner,

President of Sr. Branch 376; and they are the great, great, great-grandsons of Elizabeth Stefanec, first President of Sr. Branch 376. The proud parents are Dave and Kristy Dorfner and Dawn and Steve Rossi.

### JR. BRANCH 32 HAS NEW EXPERIENCE FOR HOLIDAY PARTY

St. Cecilia's Jr. Branch 32 of McKeesport, PA, held its annual Christmas party on December 8, 2007.

The kids had a change of pace this year. The party was held at Kid Company in West Mifflin, PA. They received tokens for the video games and enjoyed all of the features offered — indoor bumper cars, the Banana Squadron ride and everyone's favorite — a giant three level gym with clubhouses, rope climbs and tube slides.



Little Sydney Mannion and mom Danica enjoy lunch. Proud grandmother is Patti Day former officer of Branch 77



They received gifts from the Home Office, a goodie bag from Kid Company and a \$5.00 bill. They enjoyed their lunch of pizza, soda and cake in their own private party room — the North Pole

The kids lived the new experience and requested the party be held in the same place next year.

Zachary Tapocik (left) tried his hand at miniature golf. Zack is the grandson of Jerry and Virginia Holmes, Branch 77 officers.



Room.

Some of the children enjoying the party.

### GRADUATIONS? SPECIAL HONORS? 1ST HOLY COMMUNION? BIRTHDAYS?

Please send us your junior members achievements for publication in *Fraternally Yours*!

#### Wilkes-Barre Jr. Branch 362 Hold Christmas Party

The annual Christmas party of Junior Branch 362 was held on December 1, 2007 in the Plains Banquet Facility with a luncheon, gifts from the Home Office, a sing-along and raffle. A special present was given to each child in attendance by Santa himself.

Invitations were sent by a flyer as shown. Children who did not attend the party were remembered with a monetary gift enclosed with a Christmas and New Year greeting flyer as shown.

The menu consisted of hot dogs, hamburgers, pizza, fountain soda, iced tea, pink lemonade, chips, pretzels, and a make-your-own sundae. Both children and their accompanied family and friends had a fun-filled birthday party for the Infant Jesus.





Ceklosky family.



Santa with Kalna twins, Joshua and Zachary.



Officers of Junior
Branches 73, 168, 211,
and 362 — Seated, L-R:
Theresa Ceklosky, Ann
Dougher, Santa, Magdalen Iskra, Irene Kalinowski. Standing:
Bernadette Yencha,
JoAnn Klinesmith,
Bernardine Kalna, Martha Iskra, Marianne
Baloga, Barbara Ceklosky, and Maria Choman.







Newest members of Branch 362, the Sims family, L-R: Stanley, Nancy Opet (friend), John, Brianna, and Mary holding Abigail.



L-R: Michelle, Eric Ligotski, grandmother Joan Janusanis, and Brianna Ligotski.

#### Christmas Party Held for Jr. Branch 334

On Saturday, December 8, Jr. Branch 334 of Milwaukee, WI held their annual Christmas party in the Maryland Room at Klemmer's Banquet Center. This year's project was "Letters to the Troops!" Each child made approximately four cheerfully decorated Christmas cards to send to our troops in Iraq and then were treated to a delicious lunch. Santa visited and gave gifts to all, and each member received \$10 and gifts from the branch and the Home Office. Santa also led the children in a few songs. Pictured with Santa are some of the members. We are all looking forward to seeing Santa next year!







#### IN MEMORIAM

#### AGNES T. NEHILLA Branch 230

CATASAUQUA, PA—Agnes T. Nehilla, 83, of Whitehall, died January 28, 2008, at Sacred Heart Assisted Living, Northampton. She was the wife of the late William F. Nehilla, who died in 1987.



Agnes was born in Catasauqua and was the daughter of the late John J. and Susanna M. (Matis) Chuss.

She was a member of St. Andrew's Catholic Church, North Catasauqua, and a member of its Altar and Rosary Society, Marian Guild and Young at Heart group. She was also a member of the FCSLA.

She was a mail clerk for People First Federal Credit Union. Prior to that, she was a sewing machine operator for the former Universal Pants Co., Northampton, and a payroll clerk for the former Penn State Mills, Allentown.

Survivors include daughters, Deborah (David) Kenny of Kutztown, and Kathleen (Donald) Bowen of Northampton, three grandchildren; sisters Elizabeth Nemchik, Catherine Bobeck and Mary Ryan, all of Allentown; and many nieces and nephews.

She was predeceased by brothers, John and Michael, and a sister, Margaret.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held at St. Andrew's Roman Catholic Church. Robert A. Hauke Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

#### ROSELLA NIERLING Branch W137

CEDAR RAPIDS, IA—Rosella Nierling, 87, of Evergreen Estates III, formerly of 1818 Mallory St. SW, died Wednesday, January 30, 2008, at Mercy Medical Center following a brief illness.

Rosella was born April 18, 1920, near West Ridge, Allamakee County, IA. She had lived in Cedar Rapids since moving from Bur Oak in 1952. Rosella married Arthur W. Nierling on April 15, 1942, at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, West Ridge. He died May 25, 1963.

She was a member of St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church and a former member of St. Ludmila Catholic Church. She also was a member of the VFW Auxiliary, Hanford Unit of American Legion Auxiliary, Fraternal Order of Eagles Auxiliary and Guardians of St. Joseph Branch W137 FCSLA (formerly Catholic Workman).

Rosella is survived by four children: Judy (Tom) Rowles, Oxford; Donald Nierling, Chicago; Janice Nierling and Perry Paltz, Houston; and Danny (Patty) Nierling, Waterloo; three step-grandchildren, and a sister, Marcella Johnson and husband Melbourne, Waukon.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Arthur; parents, Michael and Julia (Duffy) Mellick; six sisters, Mary Ryan, Margaret Howes, Rita Nierling, Pearl Weber, Loretta Collins and Regina Mahoney; and four brothers, Frank, Donald, Leonard and Leo Mellick.

Services were held at St. Patrick's Catholic Church, Waukon, by the Rev. Joseph Schneider and the Rev. Gene Kutsch. Burial was in Mount Olivet Cemetery, Waukon.

#### DORIS E. OBORNY Branch W133

HUTCHINSON, KS—Doris E. Oborny died December 7, 2007, at the Hospice of Reno County. Born March 28, 1931, in Leigh, NE, she attended Stanton County High School and later went on to become an LPN and worked in Omaha, NE with premature newborns.

She married Bohumil Oborny in 1952 in Leigh, NE. They relocated to Hutchinson in 1956. After raising six children, she went to work at Trinity High School as a cook in 1976 and retired after 22 years.

Doris was very active in St. Teresa's Church and Altar Society, was a volunteer Meals on Wheels for many years and in 4-H with her children as a leader. She

was a member of the Midwestern Polka Club of Kansas. She was a member of the Timken, Kansas FCSLA Br. W133.

She is survived by her husband Bohumil and children: Beverly (Roger) Johnson, Hutchinson; Jerome (Linda), WaKenney; Teresa (Brian) Doerksen, Ponca City, OK; Christine (David) Horton, Phoenix, AZ; Denise (James) Rutt, Strasburg, CO; and Michael (Mary) Manhattan, KS, and 12 grand-children. She is also survived by many nieces and nephews and her twin brother, Dennis Severa.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Elise and Edward Severa, and her older brother, Edward.

Services were held at St. Teresa's Catholic Church, Hutchinson. She was laid to rest at Fairlawn Cemetery, Hutchinson.

#### CLARENCE E. PTACEK Branch W051

GARNER, IA—Clarence E. Ptacek, 84, of Garner died Saturday, February 9, 2008, at the Concord Care Center in Garner.

Clarence Edward Ptacek, the son of Adolph and Mary (Nedved) Ptacek, was born October 1, 1923, on a farm south of Duncan. He attended country school in Liberty Township until the seventh grade and then farmed with his father.

On October 4, 1943, he married Verneil Gouge at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Wesley. They lived on a farm south of Duncan until 1953 when they moved to Estherville where they owned and operated C and V Tavern. In 1956, they moved to Wesley, and in 1958 to Duncan.

Clarence worked on grain elevators and for Becker Construction until 1962 when they moved to Garner and Clarence began his construction business. He later helped his son, Gerald, build homes in Cedar Rapids. He enjoyed his family, grandchildren, playing cribbage, polka music and dancing.

He was a member of St. Boniface

continued on page 18



#### IN MEMORIAM

Catholic Church and FCSLA Branch W51.

Clarence is survived by his wife, Verneil, of Garner; six children, Joyce (Gary) Meyer of Garner, Jan (Calvin A.) Baumgartner of Garner, Karen (Dennis) Furness of Story City, Gerald (Deb) Ptacek of Cedar Rapids, Kris (Bill) Christie of Garner and Jeff (Debbie) Ptacek of Sioux Falls, SD; sixteen grandchildren; nineteen great-grandchildren; three sisters, Sally Weiskamp of Britt, Marge Schleusner of Garner and Frances (Allan) Doughan of Britt; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a brother, Tony; and three sisters, Mary Kral, Blanche Witte and Agnes Kumsher.

Funeral services were held at St. Boniface Catholic Church in Garner with Father Henry Huber officiating. Burial was in St. John's Catholic Cemetery in Duncan.

Visitation was held at the Cataldo Funeral Chapel in Garner.

#### HELEN ZELINA

#### Branch 114

BUDA, TX—Helen Zelina, 95, of Buda, Texas, was called home by God on February 2, 2008.

A first-generation American, Helen was born in Lorain, OH, on November 1, 1912, and resided in Lorain most of her life. She worked in the kitchen at St. Joseph Hospital for 15 years and briefly at Robinsons Dry Cleaners and the Lorain Garment Factory. Following her marriage to Joseph Zelina in 1949, she devoted herself to her family and is fondly remembered as a loving wife and devoted mother.

She was a member of Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Lorain and Santa Cruz Catholic Church in Buda. She was also a member of the American Slovak Club, FCSLA St. Ann's Lodge 114 and St. John the Baptist Lodge 228 in Lorain. While her children were in elementary school, she was an active participant in the Holy Trinity PTU. She

was a talented cook and seamstress and enjoyed many crafts, producing beautiful braided rugs and quilts.

Helen was preceded in death by her husband of 44 years, Joseph, in 1993, her parents Andrew and Anna Luca, brothers, Andrew and John Luca, and sisters, Anna Dzambik, Margaret McManus, and Elizabeth (Betty) Wisniewski.

She is survived by two daughters, Sue (Tim) Rushton, Vero Beach, FL, and Joanne (Marty) Martinez, of Buda, TX, with whom she made her home the last nine years. She is also survived by five grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.

#### REBECCA JANE TRIBLE

#### **Branch W133**

MANHATTAN, KS—Rebecca Jane Trible, 21, of Manhattan, and formerly of Russell, died Sunday, October 21, 2007 from an automobile accident near Russell.

Rebecca was born October 12, 1986 in Wichita, KS, the daughter of Ronnie D. and Karen Ann (Schulte) Trible. She and her family lived in Valley Center and Lacrosse, until her family moved to Russell in 1996. She graduated from Russell High School in 2005. She was active in high school with sports, National Honor Society, Letterman's Club, school plays and musicals.

Rebecca was attending her third year at Kansas State University, where her major was business and marketing. She was a member of the Alpha Kappa Psi Business Fraternity. Rebecca was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church of Russell and the St. Isidore Catholic Church in Manhattan.

She is survived by her parents, Ronnie and Karen Trible of Russell; one brother, Benjamin Ralph Trible of Manhattan; two sisters, Sarah Marie Trible of Russell, and Rachel Lea Trible of Kansas City, KS; maternal grandparents; aunts and uncles.

A funeral mass was held at St. Marys, Queen of Angels Catholic

Church in Russell. Interment followed at St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery.

#### LEONARD J. TROUBA Branch W032

WAHOO, NE—Leonard Joseph Trouba was born June 17, 1930 in rural Garland, NE to Joseph Frank and Mary Frances (Kunasek) Trouba and passed away in Wahoo, NE on December 27, 2007 at the age of 77 years, 6 months, 10 days. Leonard grew up on the family farms near Garland and Dwight, NE.

He attended Blackwood Elementary Country School near Garland and High School in Garland and Assumption in Dwight.

Leonard served in the United States Army during the Korean Conflict. Upon his discharge, he was employed by and retired from the State of Nebraska Department of Roads. Subsequently he was employed part time by Ben Simons Clothing and Ameritus Insurance, both in Lincoln, where he resided the majority of his adult life. Leonard enjoyed playing bingo, powerball, listening to his Czech music and visiting with his brothers and sister and their families and his many friends. He was a faithful member of Dwight Assumption Catholic Church and attended daily mass. He was also a member of FCSLA Branch W032. A highlight of his life was a trip to Rome and the Vatican in 1992.

Leonard was preceded in death by his parents, Joseph and Mary Trouba; a brother, Richard Trouba and a sister, Mary Ann Cecava.

Leonard is survived by his brothers and sisters-in-law, Joe and Marianne Trouba of Dwight, Don and Emma Trouba of Elkhorn, Ed Trouba of Ceresco; many nieces and nephews and a host of cousins.

Mass of Christian Burial was held at Assumption Catholic Church, Dwight, NE with Father Peter Mitchell officiating.

Interment was in Assumption Catholic Cemetery, Dwight. Wood-Zabka Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

#### Erick Macek Wins Los Angeles Music Award (LAMA)

When former Lancaster County, PA resident Erick Macek of Sr. Branch 319, Allentown, PA, moved to California in 2005, it wasn't for the sunshine.

The musician had been playing the Lancaster County area extensively, recording a CD titled "Living Dream" and even picking up an award at the American Model and Talent Convention in Florida.



But things weren't moving fast enough for Macek. In 2005, he decided that while he was doing well, he thought he could go farther and was willing to go the distance. And he literally did, packing his bags and moving to California's Huntington Beach area, away from the comforts of family, friends and a fan base.

He took a job as a graphic design artist, happy to utilize what he learned at Millersville University (Class of 2002). He also performed at a lot of open-mic events and such gatherings as Sundance Film Festival and SouthXSouthwest Festival.

Then on November 29th, 2007, Macek was honored with a Los Angeles Music Award for Best Male Pop Vocal of 2007 at a live ceremony held at the Music Box Theater in Los Angeles, CA.

For the uninitiated, who may be wondering what kind of artist wins a LAMA, consider the following names: No Doubt, the Black-Eyed Peas and Cindi Alexander.

When he got a call from LAMA, Macek was pretty ecstatic because competition is global. He could not believe that he had won this prestigious award and was going to be recognized as part of this huge event. He was even more excited that he actually had some fans at the award's show.

Macek, who has been playing music since the age of 5, threads together jazz, funk, folk, pop and soul, with a clever elegance. Vocally, he's been compared to John Mayer and Jack Johnson.

Born and raised in Bethlehem, PA Macek was only a child when his father taught him to play the accordion of all things. He also grew up bilingual, thanks to his parents, Anna and William, who arrived in America more than 37 years ago from the tiny, tiny village of Zbynov, just outside of Zilina. They ran away from the former Czechoslovakia to Austria during the communist regime in hopes to provide a better life for themselves and eventually landed in the United States. Eric has 2 older brothers, William Macek Jr. who was born in Slovakia, came to the U.S. and has served our country for the past 20 years in the Air Force; and Mark Macek, who was born in Pennsylvania and is a Neurophysiology Research Associate for Alzheimer Disease Research at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore.

Eric comes from a strict family background where he was raised with polkas and waltzes, as his first major influ-

ence. So throughout his childhood he was given multiple instruments and told to 'figure it out' as there became a need for it in the family band. Slovak was spoken inside the home and he was raised with all the Slovak traditions — the traditions he holds dear to this day!

Macek said he became a sort of a "guinea pig" and was able to pick up and figure out any instrument his father threw his way. By age 6, he played the accordion, harmonica, recorder, and keyboard, sang and danced.

Then he became a teen and felt peer pressure from other students, which meant good-bye accordion and hello soccer field. It wasn't until he entered college that he began to study guitar. That's when the music bug bit him, and he embarked on a solo career.

Then he hit the West Coast, where Eric says the weather's great, the traffic's unbelievable and there's a deep need for Slovakian restaurants that serve good, old fashioned halusky and holupki!

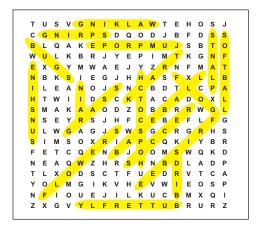
Eric misses Pennsylvania, and hopes to come back soon to perform at his old haunts like The Chameleon Club. Home is always where the heart is and Eric admits that he misses his family and friends! He thanks them for giving him the work ethic that has helped him become successful and remains grateful for their support!! Congratulations Eric!



#### Puzzle Answer

from page 14





#### Realm of Slovak Genealogy by Ray Plutko

#### "CLASS IS NOW IN SESSION"

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This is another in a series of feature articles addressing the realm of genealogy. It is one specifically designed for Slovak descendants and is so structured to serve as an introductory course for the novice, meet the needs of the advanced researcher or, if nothing else, the curious.)

Alright class, eyes forward with paper and pencil in hand as it's time again to probe some insights, clues, and possibilities in painting the canvas to your family ancestral portrait.

POSSIBILITY: When integrating all of your research data into a narrative format, make certain to add an early chapter that depicts the town/city where your originating ancestor first settled in the United States/Canada. This effort will bring an added level of "life and feel" to your family chronicle and insights to what your ancestor envisioned and experienced upon his/her arrival from Slovakia. In fact in most instances this historical picture is already written and available at the city library. In my case, I visited the library in McKeesport, PA and discovered at least four early histories of the city — which collectively evoked a vivid mental and written view of the area from 1897 to 1908 when my grandfather had yet to marry. Today this chapter remains one of the most popular to our family history.

**CLUE:** While on the topic of painting a visual/written picture of earlier times, pay a visit to one of any antique stores in a town being researched and ask the proprietor if he/she has any "Penny Postcards" of the area. These timeless visuals were first issued in the United States in 1873 and are an excellent genealogical source of the times. Make certain you ask the owner as most often these priceless and overlooked gems are tucked away in a drawer behind the counter.

**INSIGHT:** When glancing through albums/boxes of old photographs, develop a knack for closely studying the "background" of each outdoor photo. With the aid of a magnifying glass, look for any house numbers or corner street signs which may provide you with an elusive address/street location that you have been searching for the past 15 years!

POSSIBILITY: Is it just possible the information you have gathered on a specific relative is wrong? One of the most important considerations in your research is adhering to the basic rules of genealogical evidence. This includes ascertaining whether a piece of evidence (date, location, etc.) has been gleaned from an official document or source. You then have to evaluate the quality of the source material, its origin, authority, content, and bias. In many cases a piece of evidence is the result of an event: a birth, marriage, death, sale of property, graduation, probate, or some other focal point. I stress this in that we have all at one time or another, recorded information (in particular, dates) by way of what Aunt Anne or Uncle George told us! Is it indeed pos-

sible that the information you have recorded on one of your relatives is wrong?

**CLUE:** If you are fortunate enough to visit Slovakia and the village of your ancestral line, make certain to literally scour each and every grave marker in the village cemetery. Although it may have been 100 years or more since your ancestors emigrated, one marker may disclose the same surname of an individual who died as recently as 2002. Attention to this clue can lead to living descendants who have remained in the village for multiple centuries. These are the same individuals to have old photographs and family heirlooms, and to have family traditions more intact than those who emigrated through the years.

**INSIGHT:** Although there is an often-heard belief that a church is located in each and every village in Slovakia, take heed. Yes in general terms, there is a church in virtually each village — even those with a mere 800 inhabitants — but it may not be of the specific religious affiliation you are researching. The five major religious affiliations in Slovakia during the years 1825-1925 and the most referenced in research during this century time span are:

Evanjelicky a.v. Evangelic Augsburg Confession

(Lutheran)

Greckokatolicky Greek Catholic Pravoslavny Orthodox

Reformovany krestansky Reformed Christian Roman Catholic

When researching church records, keep in mind that a "triangle pattern" of villages often supported a collective of church structures and their roster of parishioners. One village may feature a Roman Catholic Church, another may house a Greek Catholic affiliation, and a third may have no church for its population. This is a critical point when examining a baptism certificate from Slovakia (one that also doubles as a birth record) as the village location of the church may not be the actual village of residence.

Well done class, now it's time for recess.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: There is now available a completely revised and updated Slovak Genealogy Research Kit (from 18 to 52 pages, plus forms), one designed exclusively for those tracing their Slovak roots. The kit may be ordered for \$13, plus \$1.75 postage. Also available is a detailed historical summary and comprehensive area map for any village you specify in Slovakia at \$5 plus \$1 postage. Make check payable to Ray Plutko and mail to: Slovak Genealogy Research Center, 6862 Palmer Court, Chino, CA 91710-7343.)

**Have A New Address?** If you belong to a household receiving two or more magazines or if you have recently moved and have a new address, you can alleviate both situations simply by using the form on page 24 and mailing to the home office address. We ask that one magazine per household be sufficient.

### Lemešany si pripomenuli svojho rodáka

Obec Lemešany v prešovskom okrese si v dňoch 18. a 19. januára pripomenula rodáka, pátra Gregora Vaniščáka OSB (\*24. júla 1884, Lemešany † 15. januára 1938, Cleveland, Ohio USA, ktorý položil základy prvého slovenského benediktínskeho opátstva v Amerike (Cleveland, Ohio USA). Pri priležitosti 70tého výročia jeho úmrtia, miestny farár Jozef Maňko spolu s veriacimi privítali medzi sebou benediktína, pátra Jozefa Brodňanského. Práve on, po viac ako roku získavania hodnotných skúseností v Kláštore sv. Andreja-Svorada v Clevelande, založenom slávnym lemešianskym rodákom, mohol všetkým najlepšie referovať o neúnavnej práci a charaktere pátra Vaniščáka, prvého priora tohto kláštora, ktorého odkaz a úmysel je ešte aj po toľkých rokoch stále aktuálny. Páter Jozef sa myšlienkou, že aj malí ľudia dokážu veľke veci, snažil priblížiť nielen dielo, ale aj špiritualitu benediktínov, ktorí na Slovensku začínajú svoje nové pôsobenie v Bacurove a stavajú nový kláštor nad obcou Sampor pri Zvolene, tak ako kedysi aj páter Gregor obnovoval tradíciu slovenských benediktínov na americkej pôde.

Druhý deň spomienky slávnostnú atmosféru umocnil svojou prítomnosťou na večernej sv. omši košický pomocný biskup Mons. Stanislav Stolárik. V homílii povzbudil rodiny aby napľňali svoje poslanie v spoločnosti a cirkvi. Tie len cez rodinu môžu získať také osobnosti, akou bol páter Gregor Vaniščak. Po spomienkovej bohoslužbe nasledovala faktografická prezentácia o živote a diele benediktínov. Svoje otázky mohli veriaci adresovať pátrovi Jozefovi a aj diecéznemu kňazovi Dušanovi Škurlovi, ktorý v Clevelande strávil skoro dva roky ako seminarista. Veľkú pozornosť rodákovi venoval aj starosta obce a s miestnymi poslancami sa postarali aj o posedenie pri bielom stole. V Lemešanoch sa chcú pričiniť aj o to, aby sa trvalá pamiatka na pátra Gregora Vaniščáka OSB, zachovala na pamätnej tabuli, ktorá bude inštalovaná v práve rozostavanom novom kostole. Do opátstva a Kláštora sv. Andreja-Svorada v Clevelande (USA), touto formou zasielajú dobrú správu o tom, že na ich húževnatého zakladateľa a svojho veľkého rodáka nezabudli.

#### **MEMBERS ONLY, PLEASE!**

**NOTE TO MEMBERS AND CONTRIBUTORS:** Please remember *Fraternally Yours* is for news items of **MEMBERS ONLY**. We are a fraternal publication for the FCSLA and space is scarce. If your loved ones want space in our publication, please make them our members.

#### K 60-mu výročiu svadby Dorothy a Andy Chuba.

Láska - láska, to je najkrajší dar Boží, ktorú nám Boh dal a priamo, do náručia vloží.

60 požehnaných rokov, uplynulo do mora večnosti, čo ste spolu, zbožne, pred oltárom stáli a skrúšeným srdcom, lásku a vernosť, si dali. Pod sv. Krížom, vyslovili, to snubné, krásne "Áno", by spoločný, rodinný, život, ste začali, to pekné "Ráno".

Nuž, k tomuto, tak významnému, spoločnému sviatku, chceli by sme pridať, aj naše modlitby, na pamiatku. Nech Vám, to potrebné, dobré, zdravie, slúži, nech, skutkom sa stane to, počom srdce a duša, túži. Nech to, sv. Božské srdce, sa pre Vás, dokorán pootvorí a tá pekná, 60 ročná láska, Vás ešte, šťastnejšími spraví.

Andy, nech tá tvoja harmonika, nikdy nezhrdzavie, ale, vo zvukoch krásy, všetko vyjadrí, všetko povie. Nech, americko-slovenská krv, vždy vo Vás, prúdi, my, sme boli a vždy budeme, na Vás, hrdí. Vieme, že aj, veľké, slovenské srdcia máte, že nám z nich, polovičku, z lásky, vďačne, dáte.

Nuž, toto je k Vášmu sviatku, úprimné a zbožné, prianie, ku ktorému, vyprosujeme, od Pána, to "Božie požehnanie". Jozef Smák

Večný som – a nehľadáte ma!

Všemohúci som – a nebojíte sa ma!

Milosrdný som – a nedôverujete mi!

Spravodlivý som – a nectíte ma!

Cesta som – a nepoznáte ma!

Svetlo som – a nevidíte ma!

Pravda som – a neveríte mi!

Múdry som – a neposlúchate ma!

Život som – a netúžite po mne!

Učiteľ som – a nepýtate sa ma!

Bohatý som – a neposíte ma!

Krásny som – a nemilujete ma!

Šľachetný som – a netúžite po mne!

Keď budete zatratení – nesťažujte si na mňa!

I am eternal — you do not seek me
I am powerful — you do not fear me
I am merciful — you do not trust me
I am just — you do not honour me
I am the way — you do not recognize me
I am the light — you do not see me
I am the truth — you do not believe me
I am the wise — you do not obey me
I am the life — you do not cherish me
I am the teacher — you do not ask me
I am the rich — you do not beseech me
I am the beautiful — you do not love me
I am the noble — you do not long for me
When you will be damned do not blame me!

### Summer Slovak Language and Culture Program

The Western Pennsylvania Slovak Cultural Association announces the third year of its Summer Slovak Language and Culture Program. Awards will be made to eligible students based on academics, major course of study, interest in Slovakia, letter of recommendations and acceptance into the Summer Slovak Language and Culture Scholarship Program under the auspices of Comenius University in Bratislava, Slovakia.

Requirements are:

- Full time student in the U.S.;
- Must apply to Comenius University for acceptance;
- · Must be of Slovak heritage;
- · Must not have previously attended the program;
- Must be willing to attend WPSCA events when requested to discuss the program.

The SAS Summer School is the oldest summer language school in Slovakia (since 1965) and is designed to enable students to improve and extend their Slovak language competency as well as increasing their level of expertise in Slovak literature and culture.

Initial funding for this program has been made possible through a grant from the FCSLA. It is one of several founding sponsors of the Western Pennsylvania Slovak Cultural Association. WPSCA, founded in 1997, is dedicated to promoting Slovak culture through programs such as language and cooking classes, film festivals and musical programs.

For further information or for application materials, contact Cynthia Maleski or Joseph Senko at 412/531-2990. All application materials must be received at Manor Oak Two, Suite 500, 1910 Cochran Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15220 on or before May 1, 2008.

### Slovak League of America to Offer Scholarship Grants in 2008

The Slovak League of America, a civic and cultural federation of Americans of Slovak ancestry, is pleased to announce that it will offer six, \$750 scholarship grants to deserving students for the fall semester of 2008. A student of Slovak ancestry, currently enrolled or who will be enrolled in the fall semester of 2008 in full time study at a college, university or professional school may apply for these grants. These grants are available to students who are on the undergraduate or graduate level of study.

Applicants are asked to write a study paper on some theme from Slovak history or culture of no less than six type-written double-spaced pages. The completed application along with the essay is to be returned by the deadline date of June 1, 2008. Grants will be paid to the individual student in August 2008.

For an application, write: Slovak League of America, 205 Madison St., Passaic, NJ 07055, tel. daily, Monday-Friday 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 973/472-8993.

The Slovak League of America Scholarship Fund, Inc., was established in 1972 as an affiliate of the Slovak League of America to assist students of Slovak ancestry in their quest for higher education. Since then, more than 100 students have benefited from this fund.

### FCSLA NATIONAL TREASURER

#### **BALANCE SHEET AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2007**

| BALANCE SHEET AS OF DECEMBER 31,  | 200             |   |
|---|-----------------|---|
| ASSETS  Cash and Short Term Investments   | \$              | 15,015,516.35   |
| Bonds   | Ψ               | 485,113,068.48  |
| Preferred Stock   |                 | 8,945,189.87  |
| Common Stock  |                 | 732,727.96  |
| Investment Income Due and Accrued Certificate Loans and Accrued Interest  |                 | 7,849,260.97<br>1,230,118.69  |
| Promissory Notes  |                 | 111,014.71  |
| Property Plant and Equipment, Net   |                 | 8,781,993.22  |
| Other Assets  | _               | 282,180.79  |
| TOTAL ASSETS  | \$              | 528,061,071.04  |
| LIABILITIES Life Reserves   | \$              | 154,111,000.08  |
| Annuity Reserves  | Ψ               | 267,613,000.10  |
| Provision for Annuity Certain Accounts  |                 | 2,071,000.00  |
| Death Claims Payable<br>Unearned Premiums   |                 | 626,862.58<br>701.807.97  |
| Matured Endowments  |                 | 117,172.95  |
| Provision for Dividends Payable   |                 | 1,656,608.57  |
| Accumulated Dividends and Interest  |                 | 3,322,982.48  |
| Accrued Convention Donations Provision for Future Conventions   |                 | 1,000,000.00<br>30,000.40   |
| Asset Valuation Reserve   |                 | 4,670,966.00  |
| Interest Maintenance Reserve  |                 | 1,517,832.00  |
| Other Liabilities   | _               | 1,927,769.31  |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES   | \$              | 438,467,002.44  |
| SURPLUS<br>Surplus  | \$              | 89,594,068.60   |
| TOTAL SURPLUS   | \$              | 89,594,068.60   |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES AND SURPLUS   | \$              | 528,061,071.04  |
| INCOME STATEMENT  | =               |   |
| For the Twelve Months Ended December 3  | 1, 2            | 007   |
| REVENUE   | •               | 10 500 000 11   |
| Insurance Premiums  | \$              | 12,532,398.14   |
| Annuity Promiumo  |                 | 0 260 652 22  |
| Annuity Premiums  |                 | 8,369,653.32<br>30,285,216,36   |
| Annuity Premiums Investment Income Amortization of Interest Maintenance Reserve   |                 | 8,369,653.32<br>30,285,216.36<br>75,464.00  |
| Investment Income   |                 | 30,285,216.36   |
| Investment Income Amortization of Interest Maintenance Reserve  | \$              | 30,285,216.36<br>75,464.00  |
| Investment Income<br>Amortization of Interest Maintenance Reserve<br>Other Revenue  | \$              | 30,285,216.36<br>75,464.00<br>327,923.53  |
| Investment Income Amortization of Interest Maintenance Reserve Other Revenue TOTAL REVENUE  EXPENSES Increase in Reserves — Life  | <u>\$</u><br>\$ | 30,285,216.36<br>75,464.00<br>327,923.53<br>51,590,655.35<br>10,305,999.91  |
| Investment Income Amortization of Interest Maintenance Reserve Other Revenue TOTAL REVENUE  EXPENSES Increase in Reserves — Life Increase in Reserves — Annuity   | =               | 30,285,216.36<br>75,464.00<br>327,923.53<br>51,590,655.35<br>10,305,999.91<br>6,480,405.93  |
| Investment Income Amortization of Interest Maintenance Reserve Other Revenue TOTAL REVENUE  EXPENSES Increase in Reserves — Life  | =               | 30,285,216.36<br>75,464.00<br>327,923.53<br>51,590,655.35<br>10,305,999.91  |
| Investment Income Amortization of Interest Maintenance Reserve Other Revenue TOTAL REVENUE  EXPENSES Increase in Reserves — Life Increase in Reserves — Annuity Insurance Benefits Annuity Benefits Commission Expense  | =               | 30,285,216.36<br>75,464.00<br>327,923.53<br>51,590,655.35<br>10,305,999.91<br>6,480,405.93<br>3,789,140.44<br>14,924,463.75<br>902,498.84   |
| Investment Income Amortization of Interest Maintenance Reserve Other Revenue TOTAL REVENUE  EXPENSES Increase in Reserves — Life Increase in Reserves — Annuity Insurance Benefits Annuity Benefits Commission Expense Surrender Benefits   | =               | 30,285,216.36<br>75,464.00<br>327,923.53<br>51,590,655.35<br>10,305,999.91<br>6,480,405.93<br>3,789,140.44<br>14,924,463.75<br>902,498.84<br>1,331,661.67   |
| Investment Income Amortization of Interest Maintenance Reserve Other Revenue TOTAL REVENUE  EXPENSES Increase in Reserves — Life Increase in Reserves — Annuity Insurance Benefits Annuity Benefits Commission Expense Surrender Benefits Miscellaneous Member Benefits   | =               | 30,285,216.36<br>75,464.00<br>327,923.53<br>51,590,655.35<br>10,305,999.91<br>6,480,405.93<br>3,789,140.44<br>14,924,463.75<br>902,498.84<br>1,331,661.67<br>1,863,563.34   |
| Investment Income Amortization of Interest Maintenance Reserve Other Revenue TOTAL REVENUE  EXPENSES Increase in Reserves — Life Increase in Reserves — Annuity Insurance Benefits Annuity Benefits Commission Expense Surrender Benefits   | =               | 30,285,216.36<br>75,464.00<br>327,923.53<br>51,590,655.35<br>10,305,999.91<br>6,480,405.93<br>3,789,140.44<br>14,924,463.75<br>902,498.84<br>1,331,661.67   |
| Investment Income Amortization of Interest Maintenance Reserve Other Revenue TOTAL REVENUE  EXPENSES Increase in Reserves — Life Increase in Reserves — Annuity Insurance Benefits Annuity Benefits Commission Expense Surrender Benefits Miscellaneous Member Benefits Matured Endowments Donation Expenses Convention Expenses  | =               | 30,285,216.36<br>75,464.00<br>327,923.53<br>51,590,655.35<br>10,305,999.91<br>6,480,405.93<br>3,789,140.44<br>14,924,463.75<br>902,498.84<br>1,331,661.67<br>1,863,563.34<br>14,956.46<br>1,626,002.11<br>41,782.79   |
| Investment Income Amortization of Interest Maintenance Reserve Other Revenue TOTAL REVENUE  EXPENSES Increase in Reserves — Life Increase in Reserves — Annuity Insurance Benefits Annuity Benefits Commission Expense Surrender Benefits Miscellaneous Member Benefits Matured Endowments Donation Expenses Convention Expenses Dividends to Members   | =               | 30,285,216.36<br>75,464.00<br>327,923.53<br>51,590,655.35<br>10,305,999.91<br>6,480,405.93<br>3,789,140.44<br>14,924,463.75<br>902,498.84<br>1,331,661.67<br>1,863,563.34<br>14,956,46<br>1,626,002.11<br>41,782.79<br>1,950,000.00   |
| Investment Income Amortization of Interest Maintenance Reserve Other Revenue TOTAL REVENUE  EXPENSES Increase in Reserves — Life Increase in Reserves — Annuity Insurance Benefits Annuity Benefits Commission Expense Surrender Benefits Miscellaneous Member Benefits Matured Endowments Donation Expenses Convention Expenses  | =               | 30,285,216.36<br>75,464.00<br>327,923.53<br>51,590,655.35<br>10,305,999.91<br>6,480,405.93<br>3,789,140.44<br>14,924,463.75<br>902,498.84<br>1,331,661.67<br>1,863,563.34<br>14,956.46<br>1,626,002.11<br>41,782.79<br>1,950,000.00<br>851,593.56   |
| Investment Income Amortization of Interest Maintenance Reserve Other Revenue TOTAL REVENUE  EXPENSES Increase in Reserves — Life Increase in Reserves — Annuity Insurance Benefits Annuity Benefits Commission Expense Surrender Benefits Miscellaneous Member Benefits Matured Endowments Donation Expenses Convention Expenses Dividends to Members Post Mortem Benefits  | =               | 30,285,216.36<br>75,464.00<br>327,923.53<br>51,590,655.35<br>10,305,999.91<br>6,480,405.93<br>3,789,140.44<br>14,924,463.75<br>902,498.84<br>1,331,661.67<br>1,863,563.34<br>14,956,46<br>1,626,002.11<br>41,782.79<br>1,950,000.00   |
| Investment Income Amortization of Interest Maintenance Reserve Other Revenue TOTAL REVENUE  EXPENSES Increase in Reserves — Life Increase in Reserves — Annuity Insurance Benefits Annuity Benefits Commission Expense Surrender Benefits Miscellaneous Member Benefits Matured Endowments Donation Expenses Convention Expenses Dividends to Members Post Mortem Benefits Bonus to Branches Fraternal Activities Bank Service Charges  | =               | 30,285,216.36<br>75,464.00<br>327,923.53<br>51,590,655.35<br>10,305,999.91<br>6,480,405.93<br>3,789,140.44<br>14,924,463.75<br>902,498.84<br>1,331,661.67<br>1,863,563.34<br>14,956.46<br>1,626,002.11<br>41,782.79<br>1,950,000.00<br>851,593.56<br>954,951.00<br>130,399.80<br>35,672.96  |
| Investment Income Amortization of Interest Maintenance Reserve Other Revenue TOTAL REVENUE  EXPENSES Increase in Reserves — Life Increase in Reserves — Annuity Insurance Benefits Annuity Benefits Commission Expense Surrender Benefits Miscellaneous Member Benefits Matured Endowments Donation Expenses Convention Expenses Dividends to Members Post Mortem Benefits Bonus to Branches Fraternal Activities Bank Service Charges Data Processing Service Fees   | =               | 30,285,216.36<br>75,464.00<br>327,923.53<br>51,590,655.35<br>10,305,999.91<br>6,480,405.93<br>3,789,140.44<br>14,924,463.75<br>902,498.84<br>1,331,661.67<br>1,863,563.34<br>14,956.46<br>1,626,002.11<br>41,782.79<br>1,950,000.00<br>851,593.56<br>954,951.00<br>130,399.80<br>35,672.96<br>272,138.91  |
| Investment Income Amortization of Interest Maintenance Reserve Other Revenue TOTAL REVENUE  EXPENSES Increase in Reserves — Life Increase in Reserves — Annuity Insurance Benefits Annuity Benefits Commission Expense Surrender Benefits Miscellaneous Member Benefits Matured Endowments Donation Expenses Convention Expenses Dividends to Members Post Mortem Benefits Bonus to Branches Fraternal Activities Bank Service Charges  | =               | 30,285,216.36<br>75,464.00<br>327,923.53<br>51,590,655.35<br>10,305,999.91<br>6,480,405.93<br>3,789,140.44<br>14,924,463.75<br>902,498.84<br>1,331,661.67<br>1,863,563.34<br>14,956.46<br>1,626,002.11<br>41,782.79<br>1,950,000.00<br>851,593.56<br>954,951.00<br>130,399.80<br>35,672.96  |
| Investment Income Amortization of Interest Maintenance Reserve Other Revenue TOTAL REVENUE  EXPENSES Increase in Reserves — Life Increase in Reserves — Annuity Insurance Benefits Annuity Benefits Commission Expense Surrender Benefits Miscellaneous Member Benefits Matured Endowments Donation Expenses Convention Expenses Dividends to Members Post Mortem Benefits Bonus to Branches Fraternal Activities Bank Service Charges Data Processing Service Fees Accounting Fees Actuarial Fees Legal Fees   | =               | 30,285,216.36<br>75,464.00<br>327,923.53<br>51,590,655.35<br>10,305,999.91<br>6,480,405.93<br>3,789,140.44<br>14,924,463.75<br>902,498.84<br>1,331,661.67<br>1,863,563.34<br>14,956.46<br>1,626,002.11<br>41,782.79<br>1,950,000.00<br>851,593.56<br>954,951.00<br>130,399.80<br>35,672.96<br>272,138.91<br>100,567.00<br>230,563.00<br>57,412.64   |
| Investment Income Amortization of Interest Maintenance Reserve Other Revenue TOTAL REVENUE  EXPENSES Increase in Reserves — Life Increase in Reserves — Annuity Insurance Benefits Annuity Benefits Commission Expense Surrender Benefits Miscellaneous Member Benefits Matured Endowments Donation Expenses Convention Expenses Dividends to Members Post Mortem Benefits Bonus to Branches Fraternal Activities Bank Service Charges Data Processing Service Fees Accounting Fees Actuarial Fees Legal Fees Consulting Services   | =               | 30,285,216.36<br>75,464.00<br>327,923.53<br>51,590,655.35<br>10,305,999.91<br>6,480,405.93<br>3,789,140.44<br>14,924,463.75<br>902,498.84<br>1,331,661.67<br>1,863,563.34<br>14,956.46<br>1,626,002.11<br>41,782.79<br>1,950,000.00<br>851,593.56<br>954,951.00<br>130,399.80<br>35,672.96<br>272,138.91<br>100,567.00<br>230,563.00<br>57,412.64<br>145,900.52   |
| Investment Income Amortization of Interest Maintenance Reserve Other Revenue TOTAL REVENUE  EXPENSES Increase in Reserves — Life Increase in Reserves — Annuity Insurance Benefits Annuity Benefits Commission Expense Surrender Benefits Miscellaneous Member Benefits Matured Endowments Donation Expenses Convention Expenses Dividends to Members Post Mortem Benefits Bonus to Branches Fraternal Activities Bank Service Charges Data Processing Service Fees Accounting Fees Actuarial Fees Legal Fees Consulting Services Official Publications   | =               | 30,285,216.36<br>75,464.00<br>327,923.53<br>51,590,655.35<br>10,305,999.91<br>6,480,405.93<br>3,789,140.44<br>14,924,463.75<br>902,498.84<br>1,331,661.67<br>1,863,563.34<br>14,956.46<br>1,626,002.11<br>41,782.79<br>1,950,000.00<br>851,593.56<br>954,951.00<br>130,399.80<br>35,672.96<br>272,138.91<br>100,567.00<br>230,563.00<br>57,412.64<br>145,900.52<br>326,904.86   |
| Investment Income Amortization of Interest Maintenance Reserve Other Revenue TOTAL REVENUE  EXPENSES Increase in Reserves — Life Increase in Reserves — Annuity Insurance Benefits Annuity Benefits Commission Expense Surrender Benefits Miscellaneous Member Benefits Matured Endowments Donation Expenses Convention Expenses Dividends to Members Post Mortem Benefits Bonus to Branches Fraternal Activities Bank Service Charges Data Processing Service Fees Accounting Fees Actuarial Fees Legal Fees Consulting Services Official Publications Scholarship Awards Miscellaneous Employee Benefits  | =               | 30,285,216.36<br>75,464.00<br>327,923.53<br>51,590,655.35<br>10,305,999.91<br>6,480,405.93<br>3,789,140.44<br>14,924,463.75<br>902,498.84<br>1,331,661.67<br>1,863,563.34<br>14,956.46<br>1,626,002.11<br>41,782.79<br>1,950,000.00<br>851,593.56<br>954,951.00<br>130,399.80<br>35,672.96<br>272,138.91<br>100,567.00<br>230,563.00<br>57,412.64<br>145,900.52<br>326,904.86<br>270,250.00<br>280,264.42   |
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### Nothing Soothes the Soul Like Chocolate!

### LOWFAT CHOCOLATE MUFFINS

1½ cups all-purpose flour

34 cup granulated sugar

1/4 cup cocoa

2 teaspoons baking powder

1 teaspoon baking soda

½ teaspoon salt

<sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub> cup vanilla lowfat yogurt

2/3 cup nonfat milk

½ teaspoon vanilla extract

Powdered sugar

Heat oven to 400°F. Line muffin cups (2½ inches in diameter) with paper bake cups.

Stir together flour, granulated sugar, cocoa, baking powder, baking soda and salt in medium bowl; stir in yogurt, milk and vanilla just until combined. Do not beat. Fill muffin cups 2/3 full with batter.

Bake 15 to 20 minutes or until wooden pick inserted in center comes out clean. Cool slightly in pan on wire rack. Remove from pans. Sprinkle powdered sugar over tops of muffins, if desired. Serve warm. Store, covered, at room temperature or freeze in airtight container for longer storage. Makes 14 muffins.

#### CHOCOLATE CHIP BANANA BREAD

2 cups all-purpose flour

1 cup sugar

1 teaspoon baking powder

1 teaspoon salt

½ teaspoon baking soda

1 cup mashed ripe banana (2 to 3 medium)

½ cup shortening

2 eggs

1 cup Semi-Sweet Chocolate Mini Chips

½ cup chopped walnuts

Heat oven to 350°F. Grease bottom only of 9 x 5-inch loaf pan.

Combine all ingredients except small chocolate chips and walnuts in large bowl; blend well on medium speed of mixer. Stir in small chocolate chips and walnuts. Pour batter into prepared pan.

Bake 60 to 65 minutes or until wooden pick inserted in center comes out clean. Cool 10 minutes; remove from pan. Cool completely on wire rack. Makes 1 loaf (18 servings).

#### **CHOCOLATE MOUSSE**

1 teaspoon unflavored gelatin

1 tablespoon cold water

2 tablespoons boiling water

½ cup sugar

1/4 cup cocoa

1 cup (½ pt.) cold whipping cream

1 teaspoon vanilla extract

Sprinkle gelatin over cold water in small bowl; let stand 1 minute to soften. Add boiling water; stir until gelatin is completely dissolved and mixture is clear. Cool slightly.

Stir together sugar and cocoa in medium bowl; add whipping cream and vanilla. Beat on medium speed of electric mixer, scraping bottom of bowl occasionally, until mixture is stiff. Pour in gelatin mixture; beat until well blended. Spoon into serving dishes.

Refrigerate about 30 minutes before serving. Garnish as desired. Cover; refrigerate leftover desserts. Four ½ cup servings.

(To double recipe: Use 1 envelope gelatin; double remaining ingredients. Follow directions above, using large bowl instead of medium bowl.)

#### **CHOCOLATE CHEESEPIE**

4 sections (½ oz. each) unsweetened chocolate baking bar, broken into pieces

½ cup (½ stick) butter or margarine, softened

34 cup sugar

1 package (3 oz.) cream cheese, softened

1 teaspoon milk

2 cups frozen whipped topping, thawed

1 packaged crumb crust (6 oz.)

Additional whipped topping (optional)

Place chocolate in small microwavesafe bowl. Microwave at HIGH (100%) 1 to 1½ minutes or until chocolate is melted and smooth when stirred.

Beat butter, sugar, cream cheese and milk in medium bowl until well blended and smooth; fold in chocolate.

Fold in 2 cups whipped topping; spoon into crust. Cover; refrigerate until firm, about 3 hours. Garnish with additional whipped topping, if desired. Makes 6 to 8 servings.

### . . . and more chocolate!

#### CHOCOLATE PEANUT BUTTER MILKSHAKE

11/2 cups vanilla ice cream

1 cup cold milk

1/3 cup chocolate syrup

2 tablespoons peanut butter topping or creamy peanut butter

Whipped topping

Place ice cream, milk, syrup and topping in blender container. Cover; blend until smooth.

Garnish with whipped topping (and cherry), if desired. Makes 2 (10-oz.) servings.

### CHOCOLATE MACAROON PIZZA



1 pkg. (450g) fudge brownie mix

2 egg whites

2 pkg. sweetened flaked coconut

1 can sweetened condensed milk

½ cup sliced almonds

1 square semisweet chocolate

1 tsp. vegetable oil

Preheat oven to 375°F. Cut a 15-inch circle of parchment paper; place on large round stone or pizza pan. Prepare brownie mix according to package directions. Pour batter onto parchment paper, spreading into a 14-inch circle. (Do not bake without parchment paper or batter will run off baking stone while baking) Bake 15-18 minutes or until brownie is set. Do not over bake. Remove to cooling rack.

In clean bowl, separate egg whites from egg yolks. (Set egg yolks aside for another use.) Fold coconut and sweetened condensed milk into egg whites. Spread coconut mixture over top of brownie base to within 2 inches of edge. Sprinkle with almonds. Return to oven and bake 25 minutes or until edges of coconut are deep golden brown. Remove to cooling rack. Finely chop chocolate. Melt chocolate with oil in microwave, uncovered, on MEDIUM 2 minutes, stirring once, or until chocolate is melted and smooth.

Using a pizza cutter, cut pizza into serving wedges. Drizzle with melted chocolate. Makes 16 servings.

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